



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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Date: July 19, 2006

Release Number TX 272.06

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR CONCHO VALLEY LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS, July 19, 2006-- USDA Rural Development State Director, Bryan Daniel, today announced Concho Valley Local Workforce Development Board has received a \$68,600 Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) to provide technical assistance to local leadership within 12 rural counties for the development of a Concho Valley Regional Economic Development Council. Upon the establishment of this group, a revolving loan fund of \$150,000 will be implemented to encourage small business development.

“The injection of funds into the area will be used to support the development of small businesses in the 12 counties that comprise Concho Valley,” said Daniel. “I am very pleased that Texas USDA Rural Development is able to assist the Concho Valley Local Workforce Development Board in this endeavor.”

In Fiscal Year 2005, Texas USDA Rural Development obligated over \$1.3 million in Rural Business Enterprise Grants. Potential businesses in rural communities interested in the RBEG Program must employ 50 or fewer new employees and have less than \$1 million in gross annual revenues. Public bodies and not-for-profit entities including federally recognized Indian Tribes located in rural areas or in communities below 50,000 in population are eligible for the RBEG Program. Priority is given to applicants from communities of 25,000 or less.

USDA Rural Development strives to see that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Ozona Local Office at (325) 392-2301, Extension 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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